ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sub-picture category (SP_CAT) is added to a sub-picture unit header (SPUH) configuring a sub-picture unit, and a flag "Raw" indicating pixel data run length

5   compression/non-compression is provided in the header. Original data with a 4-bit/1-pixel configuration is subjected to run length compression, and if the data after compression exceeds the size of the original data, flag "Raw" = 1 (non-compression) is specified.

10   If the data is slightly compressed, flag "Raw" = 0 (compression) is specified, thereby enabling efficient recording of sub-picture information in a recording medium.